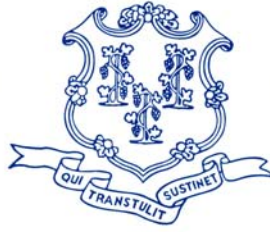


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

Official Statement

WHEREAS, the citizens of Connecticut stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs; and

WHEREAS, the programs provide a safe, friendly learning environment for our kids that boost their academic achievement and support working families by ensuring that their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; and

WHEREAS, they encourage families to become more effective partners in their children's education and build stronger communities by involving our students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of our young people; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are a critical link to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, *Lights on Afterschool!*, a national celebration of afterschool programs to be held on October 20, 2005, promotes the critical importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families and their communities; now

THEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby proclaim October 20, 2005, as

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

in the State of Connecticut. I urge all our citizens to join me in assuring that every Connecticut child has access to a safe, friendly place where the lights are on after school.



M. Jodi Rell
Governor